



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/382,438	08/25/1999	WILLIAM R. GARDNER	QCPA990482	5232
23696	7590	12/28/2005	EXAMINER	
QUALCOMM, INC 5775 MOREHOUSE DR. SAN DIEGO, CA 92121			RYMAN, DANIEL J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2665	

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/382,438

Applicant(s)

GARDNER ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel J. Ryman

Art Unit

2665

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 10-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 10-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 10-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2. Regarding claim 29, Applicant reiterates arguments previously made. Examiner responded to these arguments in the previous Office Action, mailed 8/5/2005. Examiner will rely on this response to rebut Applicant's current arguments.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 10-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over van Nee (USPN 6,175,550) in view of Jung et al. (USPN 6,307,851) in further view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art.

5. Regarding claim 10, van Nee discloses a method in a wireless communication system, comprising: designating a multi-carrier forward link having a plurality of forward link frequency bins (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67); and designating a reverse link having at least one reverse link frequency bin (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67), wherein the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin are designated such that bandwidth of the forward link is allocated

Art Unit: 2665

differently from bandwidth of the reverse link (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

Van Nee does not expressly disclose that the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain. Rather van Nee discloses that the signals are transmitted using OFDM. Jung teaches, in a multi-carrier system, that OFDM has low frequency diversity capacity compared to multi-carrier CDMA (MC-CDMA) (col. 2, lines 42-47). Jung also teaches code spreading in the time domain by multiplying a data symbol by a subscriber-specific signature code sequence (col. 4, lines 31-45) where the transmitted data sequence, $d^{(k)}(t)$, is a time domain signal composed of data symbols, $d_n^{(k)}$, multiplied by chips, $c^{(k)}$, in the time domain. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain in order to increase the frequency diversity capacity of the multi-carrier system compared to an OFDM system.

Van Nee in view of Jung does not expressly disclose allocating each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin. Applicant teaches as prior art that cdma2000 3X links are well-known in the art since cdma2000 expands “the capabilities of the preceding technologies to include wireless e-mail, Web browsing, and corporate and local network access, as well as videoconferencing, e-commerce and multimedia” (page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). In addition, Applicant teaches that “[b]y using the 3X FDD mode and providing a forward link using the multi-carrier format, a communications system is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system”

Art Unit: 2665

(pg. 5, lines 6-8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allocate each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin in order to have a communications system that expands current technologies, but that is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system.

6. Regarding claim 11, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses selecting a first forward link frequency bin from the plurality of forward link frequency bins for forward link transmission, the first forward link frequency bin having an associated first reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67); and selecting a second reverse link frequency bin for reverse link transmission corresponding to the forward link transmission wherein the second reverse link frequency bin is different from the first reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

7. Regarding claim 12, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the selecting a second reverse link frequency bin is based on loading of the system (van Nee: col. 7, line 40-col. 8, line 67, esp. col. 7, line 40-col. 8, line 1).

8. Regarding claim 13, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art does not expressly disclose selecting a third reverse link frequency bin for reverse link transmission corresponding to the forward link transmission, wherein the third reverse link frequency bin is different from the first and second reverse link frequency bins; however, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art does disclose selecting reverse link frequency bins for reverse link transmission corresponding to the forward link

Art Unit: 2665

transmission, wherein the reverse link frequency bins are different from each other, depending on the reverse link data rate (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67). It is generally considered to be within the ordinary skill in the art to adjust, vary, select, or optimize the numerical parameters or values of any system absent a showing of criticality in a particular recited value. The burden of showing criticality is on applicant. In re Mason, 87 F.2d 370, 32 USPQ 242 (CCPA 1937); Marconi Wireless Telegraph Co. v. U.S., 320 U.S. 1, 57 USPQ 471 (1943); In re Schneider, 148 F.2d 108, 65 USPQ 129 (CCPA 1945); In re Aller, 220 F.2d 454, 105 USPQ 233 (CCPA 1055); In re Saether, 492 F.2d 849, 181 USPQ 36 (CCPA 1974); In re Antonie, 559 F.2d 618, 195 USPQ 6 (CCPA 1977); In re Boesch, 617 F.2d 272, 205 USPQ 215 (CCPA 1980). Since van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses selecting reverse link frequency bins corresponding to the forward link transmission, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to select any number of reverse link frequency bins, including three, absent a showing of criticality by Applicant.

9. Regarding claim 14, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art suggests that said plurality of forward link frequency bins comprise three frequency bins (Applicant: pg. 4, line 22-pg. 5, line 1).

10. Regarding claim 15, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art does not disclose in the main embodiment that the plurality of bins are adjacent frequency bins; however, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art does disclose in one embodiment that the plurality of bins are adjacent frequency bins (van Nee: Fig. 3; col. 6, lines 4-9; and col. 6, lines 47-59). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of

Art Unit: 2665

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have said plurality of forward link frequency bins be adjacent frequency bins since this is disclosed in an embodiment in the system.

11. Regarding claim 16, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that said multi-carrier forward link is adapted for transmission of a plurality of code channels (Jung: col. 2, lines 42-47). Van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art suggests that one of said plurality of code channels is used to communicate power control information for said second reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 7, line 62-col. 8, line 19; col. 9, lines 9-16; and col. 9, line 52-60) where van Nee discloses that one of the plurality of frequency channels is used to communicate control information for reverse link frequency bins and where power control is well known control information.

12. Regarding claim 17, van Nee discloses a method of allocating bandwidth for forward and reverse link transmissions in a wireless communication system (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67), comprising: receiving communications on a multi-carrier forward link, the multi-carrier forward link having a plurality of forward link frequency bins, the reverse link having at least one frequency bin, wherein the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin are configured such that the allocation of bandwidth for the forward and reverse link transmissions are variable (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

Van Nee does not expressly disclose that the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain. Rather van Nee discloses that the signals are transmitted using OFDM. Jung teaches, in a multi-carrier system, that OFDM has low frequency diversity capacity compared to multi-carrier

Art Unit: 2665

CDMA (MC-CDMA) (col. 2, lines 42-47). Jung also teaches code spreading in the time domain by multiplying a data symbol by a subscriber-specific signature code sequence (col. 4, lines 31-45) where the transmitted data sequence, $d^{(k)}(t)$, is a time domain signal composed of data symbols, $d_n^{(k)}$, multiplied by chips, $c^{(k)}$, in the time domain. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain in order to increase the frequency diversity capacity of the multi-carrier system compared to an OFDM system.

Van Nee in view of Jung does not expressly disclose allocating each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin. Applicant teaches as prior art that cdma2000 3X links are well-known in the art since cdma2000 expands “the capabilities of the preceding technologies to include wireless e-mail, Web browsing, and corporate and local network access, as well as videoconferencing, e-commerce and multimedia” (page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). In addition, Applicant teaches that “[b]y using the 3X FDD mode and providing a forward link using the multi-carrier format, a communications system is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system” (pg. 5, lines 6-8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allocate each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin in order to have a communications system that expands current technologies, but that is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system.

Art Unit: 2665

13. Regarding claim 18, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses receiving by a first device a communication on a forward link frequency bin, the forward link frequency bin having an associated first reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67); and transmitting by a second device via a second reverse link frequency bin, wherein said second reverse link frequency bin is different from the first reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

14. Regarding claim 19, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art inherently discloses receiving by the first device an indication of a reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67) where a base station and a mobile station must agree on a reverse link frequency bin in order to establish communication over a reverse link frequency bin.

15. Regarding claim 20, van Nee discloses an apparatus in a wireless communication system, comprising: a first means for transmitting information on a multi-carrier forward link (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67), wherein said multi-carrier forward link comprises a plurality of forward link frequency bins (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67); and a second means for designating a reverse link frequency bin (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67), wherein said first and second means configure the frequency bins so as to enable differential allocation of bandwidth for forward link and reverse link transmissions (col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

Van Nee does not expressly disclose that the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain. Rather van Nee discloses that the signals are transmitted using OFDM. Jung teaches, in a multi-carrier system, that OFDM has low frequency diversity capacity compared to multi-carrier CDMA (MC-CDMA) (col. 2, lines 42-47). Jung also teaches code spreading in the time domain by multiplying a data symbol by a subscriber-specific signature code sequence (col. 4, lines 31-45) where the transmitted data sequence, $d^{(k)}(t)$, is a time domain signal composed of data symbols, $d_n^{(k)}$, multiplied by chips, $c^{(k)}$, in the time domain. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the forward link frequency bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin comprise signals obtained by code spreading in the time domain in order to increase the frequency diversity capacity of the multi-carrier system compared to an OFDM system.

Van Nee in view of Jung does not expressly disclose allocating each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin. Applicant teaches as prior art that cdma2000 3X links are well-known in the art since cdma2000 expands “the capabilities of the preceding technologies to include wireless e-mail, Web browsing, and corporate and local network access, as well as videoconferencing, e-commerce and multimedia” (page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). In addition, Applicant teaches that “[b]y using the 3X FDD mode and providing a forward link using the multi-carrier format, a communications system is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system” (pg. 5, lines 6-8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to allocate each of the forward link bins and the at least one reverse link

Art Unit: 2665

frequency bin for single-carrier CDMA communication within the respective bin in order to have a communications system that expands current technologies, but that is fully compatible with existing IS-95 system.

16. Regarding claim 21, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses means for selecting a first forward link frequency bin from the plurality of forward link frequency bins for the forward link transmission, the first forward link frequency bin having an associated first reverse link frequency bins (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67); and means for selecting a second reverse link frequency bin for the reverse link transmission corresponding to the forward link transmission, wherein the second reverse link frequency bin is different from the first reverse link frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

17. Regarding claim 22, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the designations of the forward and reverse link includes allocating more bandwidth for the forward link than the reverse link (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

18. Regarding claim 23, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the designation of the forward link includes configuring the forward link as a cdma2000 3X forward link (Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8).

19. Regarding claim 24, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the forward link includes first, second, and third carriers (Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8).

Art Unit: 2665

20. Regarding claim 25, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that said first, second, and third carriers occupy first, second, and third adjacent frequency bins, respectively (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27 and Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8).

21. Regarding claim 26, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art suggests that the designation of the reverse link includes configuring the reverse link as a cdma2000 1X reverse link (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67 and Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). Van Nee discloses that the reverse link may be configured in a different manner than the forward link in order to support asymmetric data rates (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67). Applicant teaches as prior art that the 1X reverse link has a lower data rate compared to a 3X forward link (Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have the designation of the reverse link include configuring the reverse link as a cdma2000 1X reverse link in order to have asymmetric data rates.

22. Regarding claim 27, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art discloses that the reverse link includes a fourth carrier (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67).

23. Regarding claim 28, van Nee in view of Jung in further view of Applicant's admitted prior art does not expressly disclose that the fourth carrier is located in a frequency range similar to the second frequency bin (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67 and Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8); however, Van Nee discloses that the

Art Unit: 2665

reverse link may be configured in a different manner than the forward link in order to support asymmetric data rates (van Nee: col. 1, lines 17-27; col. 1, line 38-col. 2, line 21; and col. 8, lines 20-67). Applicant teaches as prior art having the reverse and forward frequency ranges overlap (Applicant: page 4, lines 1-page 6, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to locate the fourth carrier in a frequency range similar to the second frequency bin.

24. Regarding claim 29, incorporating the rejection of claim 10, van Nee in view of Jung discloses each limitation of claim 29, as outlined in the rejection of claim 10, except that a subset of the reverse link frequency bins are time-division-duplexed. Applicant admits as prior art that time division duplexing is well known in the art since it allows both the forward link and the reverse link to be transmitted in a single band (page 5, lines 12-18). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have a subset of the reverse link frequency bins be time-division-duplexed in order to allow both the forward link and the reverse link to be transmitted in a single band.

Conclusion

25. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 2665

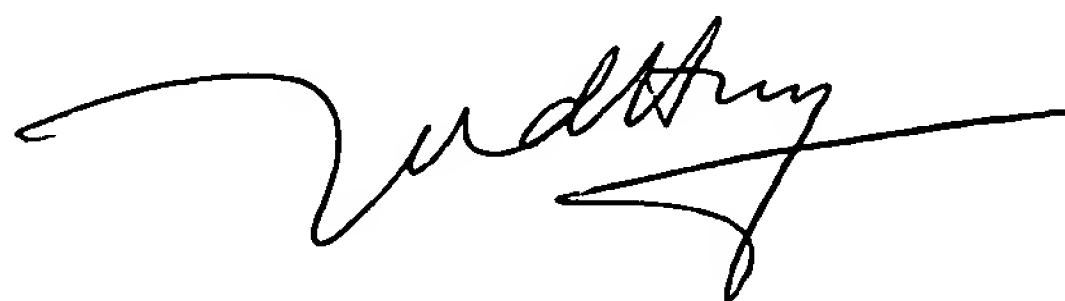
will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Ryman whose telephone number is (571)272-3152. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 7:00-4:30 with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571)272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DJR
Daniel J. Ryman
Examiner
Art Unit 2665



HUY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600